

# Pesticide Advisory Board



Washington  
State Department of  
Agriculture

The Pesticide Advisory Board (PAB) was re-established\* in the 2023 Legislative session to review and advise the Pesticide Management Division (PMD) of WSDA on activities and actions related to the Division's plans, actions, and ongoing or emerging significant issues related to pesticides in Washington State.

The mission of Pesticide Management Division (PMD) is to protect human health and the environment from pesticides by regulating the safe and legal distribution, use, handling, storage, transportation, and disposal of pesticides.

## Pesticide Registration

- Review and register over 14,000 pesticide products for legal distribution in Washington state.
- Perform toxicity reviews of new active ingredients and aquatic use ingredients.
- Review and approve Special Local Need (SLN) registrations, Emergency Exemptions.
- Review and Issue Experimental Use Permits (EUP) - Necessary field research which addresses local and minor crop pest problems.

## Pesticide Licensing and Recertification

- Provide initial testing and certification of pesticide applicators, dealers, consultants, and structural pest inspectors.
- Develop and maintain 33 unique pesticide license exams and standards.
- Administer continuing education credits and recertify active qualified pesticide licensees.
- Manage Licensing and recertification credits for approximately 30,000 pesticide licensees in WA.

## Pesticide Compliance

- Enforce state and federal pesticide laws and rules under the authority of FIFRA and EPA Region 10 delegated authority as the state lead agency to enforce pesticide laws and rules.
- Investigate complaints related to possible pesticide misuse; improper storage, sales, distribution, or disposal; applicator licensing violations.
- Conduct field investigations and collect samples as needed for pesticide residue and analysis.
- Inspect pesticide application businesses, marketplaces (stores), distributors (sales), importers, manufacturers, and pesticide applications for compliance with state and federal pesticide requirements.

## Technical Services and Education

- Provides bilingual (Spanish and English) training and certification of pesticide applicators, handlers, trainers, and others, including Worker Protection Standard (WPS) and safety education.
- Provides bilingual (Spanish and English) technical assistance to the agriculture industry related to the safe and legal use of pesticides and pesticide application equipment.
- Collects unusable and unwanted agricultural and commercial grade pesticides from state residents, farmers, small businesses, nonprofits, and public agencies.

In addition to work conducted by the pesticide programs the PAB may address the following issues:

- Crop and pest control challenges, including new invasive pests
- Proposed Rulemaking
- Pesticide Related Legislation—New Fees, Programs, or Projects
- Coordination with other State and Federal Agencies
- Emerging issues related to pesticides
- Water quality and other environmental issues related to pesticides

## Program Contact Information

Pesticide Compliance:  
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\*The PAB was initially established by the legislature in 1994 and then was struck from statute along with other state funded boards and committees by Governor Gregoire in 2010, due to the 2008 recession causing a state funding deficit.